

**Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation  
EA OR-104-00-01**

**SWIFTWATER FIELD OFFICE**

Date Prepared: July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2000

**Road Decommissioning, Road Treatments, and Culvert Replacement  
FONSI and Decision Record**

An interdisciplinary (ID) team of the Swiftwater Resource Area, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has analyzed the proposed **Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation** Environmental Assessment (EA). This analysis was documented in EA # OR-104-00-01. The projects that were analyzed exist on two different BLM administrative units, Roseburg BLM District, Swiftwater Field Office and Coos Bay BLM District, Umpqua Field Office. Therefore this decision requires separate signatures by each respective Field Manager (Decision Maker). Signatures by each Field Manager in this decision authorize implementation of the following projects within the boundaries of their respective administrative units. **For this decision only**, the projects targeted to increase benefits to water quality, fish, and wildlife habitat include the following categories and estimated amounts as portrayed in **Table 1**:

**Table 1                      RESTORATION SUMMARY**

<b>Upslope Road Restoration and Rehabilitation</b>	<b><i>Amount Planned</i></b>
a. Road Decommissioning	<b>16.1 miles</b>
b. Road Treatments to Reduce Risks	<b>41.8 miles</b>
c. Major Fish Barrier or High Risk Culvert Replacements or Removals	<b>Approx. 20</b>

Because of the need for a Biological Opinion from both National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) related to instream restoration impacts on OC coho and OC steelhead trout and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) related to instream restoration impacts on Marbled Murrellets, a future decision record will deal with the instream restoration portion analyzed in the EA.

**Decision:**

It is our decision to implement that portion of the Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation EA that includes road decommissioning, road treatments and culvert replacements or removals. The bulk of this work will be accomplished as funding becomes available through regular budgeting processes and opportunities to match funds through grants and other funding organizations.

Some portions of the project (culvert replacements and road decommissioning) are expected to commence in July of 2000. The project design features for these projects are listed on pages 10-16 of the EA. These features have been developed into contract stipulations and will be

implemented as part of their respective contracts.

#### **Finding of No Significant Impacts:**

Based on the analysis of the potential environmental impacts contained in the **Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation** EA, we have determined that impacts from the listed projects above are in conformance with the Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan, June 1995 and the Coos Bay Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan, May 1995. The impact from these projects are not expected to be significant and an environmental impact statement is not required.

#### **Decision Rationale:**

The selected portion of the Proposed Action Alternative meets the objectives for lands in key watershed, the Matrix, Late Successional Reserve, and Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocations and follows the principles set forth in the ROD for the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP), dated April 13, 1994 and the RMPs, dated May and June 1995.

For cultural clearances, two cultural resource properties were identified within Upper and Middle Smith River subwatersheds. Since these properties will be avoided during project implementation, the section 106 requirements of the National Historical Preservation Act and Oregon BLM/Oregon SHPO protocols are satisfied.

Consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the identified projects have been completed. The BO concluded that the action is "... not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the spotted owl, murrelet, or bald eagle, and are not likely to adversely modify spotted owl or murrelet critical habitat".

This decision is contingent on consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that is expected to conclude that the actions are "... not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of OC coho or OC steelhead trout." None of the identified projects will be implemented until a BO has been completed. All terms and conditions will be followed. A BO for fiscal year 2000 projects is expected from NMFS on or about July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2000.

The thirty day public review and comment period was completed on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2000. During the thirty day public review period, comments were received from Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. (Francis Eatherington). The substance of Ms Eatherington's comments dealt with the concerns for the source locations of large wood to be used for instream restoration and did not address any of the projects listed above.

#### **Compliance and Monitoring:**

Monitoring will be conducted as per the guidance given in the ROD and the RMP.

#### **Protest and Appeal Procedures**

As outlined in 43 CFR § 5003 Administrative Remedies, protests may be filed with the authorized officer within 15 days of the publication date of the Decision Notice in the News Review.



For further information, contact Jay Carlson, Field Manager, Swiftwater Resource Area, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd; Roseburg, OR. 97470, (541) 440-4930.

  
Jay Carlson  
Swiftwater Field Manager

7/6/00  
Date

  
Gary Johnson  
Umpqua Field Manager

7-5-00  
Date